

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 296422 TOSEC 240285

67

ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 PA-02 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 /019 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:PPERENYI:SM

APPROVED BY S/PRS - JOHN TRATTNER

S/PRS - AMB. ANDERSON

S/S - FVORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 296422 TOSEC 240285

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENT'S DAILY PRESS BRIEFING,
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS (TRATTNER)

NO. 17

IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, SPOKESMAN GAVE FOLLOWING REPLIES:

1. TERRENCE SMITH REPORT IN NEW YORK TIMES THAT PRESIDENT FORD ASKED RABIN FOR ADVANCE CONSULTATION ON MILITARY ACTIONS: AS WE HAVE SAID, WE DO NOT DISCUSS PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE AND DO NOT NORMALLY DISCUSS DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. WE ARE CONSTANTLY IN TOUCH WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND ALL GOVERNMENTS IN THE AREA.

2. U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA: WE HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO WHAT THE SECRETARY SAID LAST WEEK HERE AND IN BRUSSELS. ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY MULCAHY IS SCHEDULED TO TESTIFY BEFORE HUMPHREY SUBCOMMITTEE ON SUBJECT TODAY.

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PAGE 02 STATE 296422 TOSEC 240285

3. U.S. REPRESENTATION BEFORE THE SCC ON LASER USE
AGAINST SATELLITES: REFERRED TO DOD RESPONSE TO PRESS
THAT U.S. HAS NOT RAISED MATTER WITH SOVIETS.

4. JOHN FINNEY ARTICLE IN NEW YORK TIMES RE SALE OF AWACS
AIRCRAFT TO IRAN: THIS IS DOD MATTER. BELIEVE THEY HAVE
SAID NO LETTER OF OFFER SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS OR PRESENTED
TO GOVERNMENT OF IRAN. THERE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSIONS WITH
GOVERNMENT OF IRAN, BUT NOTHING FIRM.

INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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